

## Nature of Slavery within African Societies

- Slavery was a natural part of African society
- In West Africa, the system of slavery resembled European feudalism
- Slaves were used to increase production and population of a region = more power
- Seen more as a resource, rather than a trade commodity

## Treatment of Slaves within African Societies

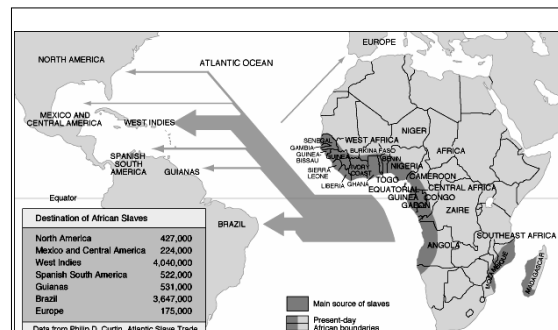
- Generally, slaves were well treated
- While low in hierarchy, active contributor to kingdom or community
- Some held high positions with significant responsibility
- Accepted by and lived with non-slaves in family settings

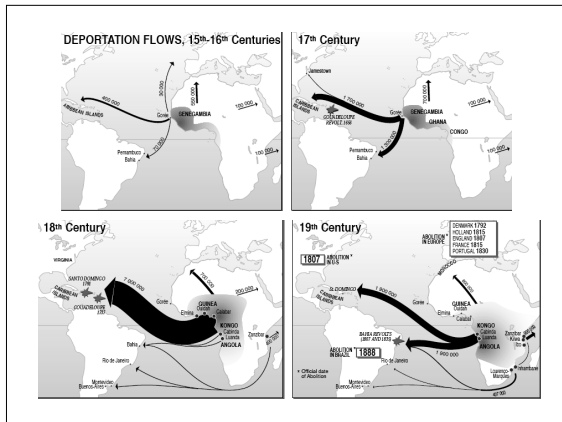
## Islamic Traders

- Conquest of North Africa by Muslims expanded slavery in Africa
- Harsh interpretations of Islamic law justified enslavement of non-Muslims
- Islamic traders exported slaves from the 8th century through the 19th century

## European Background

- Portuguese started African slave trade in 1441
- First Africans in Hispanola in 1505
- 1450-1850 ~12 million Africans sent to Americas





## Triangular Trade

- Slaves were carried to the Americas
- Sugar, Tobacco, and other goods were then carried to Europe
- European products (cloth, firearms) were sent to the coast of Africa for slaves to begin the triangle trade again

## Triangular Trade



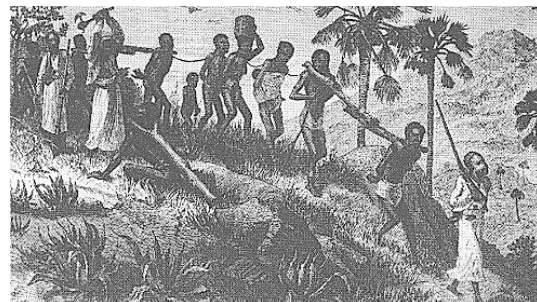
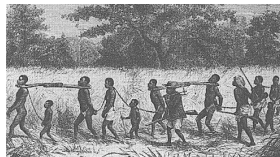
## Why Africans?

- No written language , many languages
- Native Americans dying off
- No muskets and gunpowder
- Africans participated in trade by enslaving others, selling debtors and criminals, and kidnapping



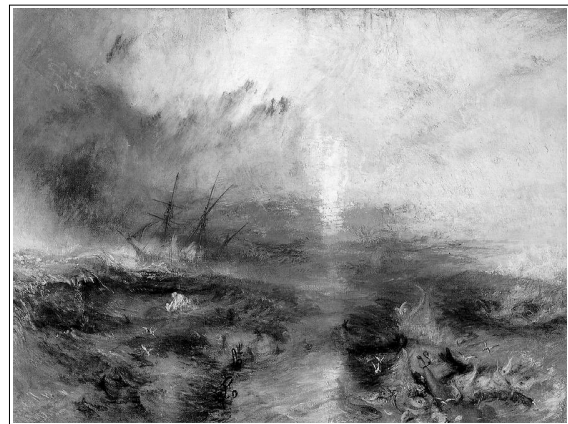
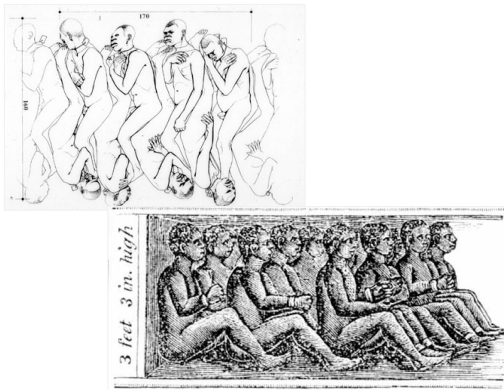
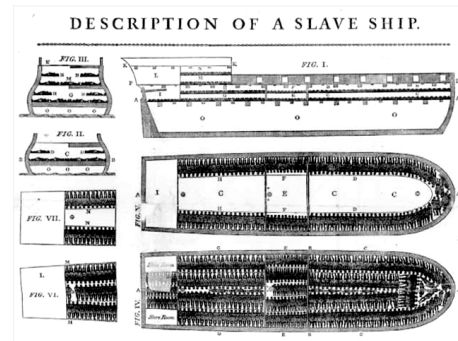
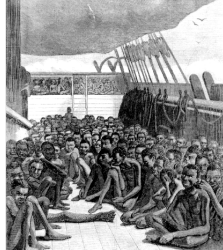
## Justification

- Slavery made development of the New World profitable
- Native American slaves died of diseases, escaped easily
- African tribes needed weapons and supplies from Europe



## Exportation

- Trip called the Middle Passage
- 5000 miles, 3 wks. to 3 mos.
- 20-25% died
- Strip Africans' self respect and self identity



## Effects

- Focus on men affected male/female ratios
- During slave trade, African population overall increases - why?
- African nations collapsed and were formed
- Slavery finally considered immoral

## The End

- 1808 - Slave trade ended in US
- 1833 - Great Britain outlaws slavery
- 1863 - United States
- 1888 - Brazil

